

HISTORICAL DIRECTORY



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HISTORICAL



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FLORENCE G MILLS

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Florence G. Balch was born November 28, 1851, the daughter of Luther and Sarah Balch, and resided in Kalamazoo all her life.

Florence Balch was married to Alfred J. Mills

June 30, 1874. She was the mother of four children:

Mrs. Rose D. Evers; Mrs. Edmund W. Chase, Kalamazoo;

Mrs. Benjamin G. Pyle of San Benito, Texas; and James

A. Mills of Kalamazoo. There are six grandchildren:

Frasier M. Cole, Charles M. Chase, Alfred W. Chase,

Howard Pyle and Joan Pyle. There is also one great

grandchild, Sarah L. Chase.

Mrs. Mills was founder of the Kalamazoo County
Federation of Women's clubs now in its thirty-first
year. She was a member of the Board of the Merrill
Home for Old Ladies, a member of the Douglas Community
Board and a member of the Bronson Hospital Board.
She was founder of the Civic League in Kalamazoo and
was a member of the Ladies Library Association for
fifty years. She was a past president of the State
Federation of Women's Clubs and an honorary member of
the 20th Century Club. She served for some time on
the Board of Education in Kalamazoo and belonged to

k. • the war Mothers.

Mrs. Mills was recognized as a prominent civic leader and was honored as such in the State of Michigan. She dedicated her life to the service of others and her greatest satisfaction was in that service. She was a woman of unusual executive ability and her efforts in the development of women's organizations in Kalamazoo and throughout the State were keenly appreciated. On the occasion of her 81st birth-day the Ladies Library Association made her the guest of honor and paid tribute to her superior qualities of character and achievement. Dr. Smith Burnham voiced the general sentiment in the statement that Kalamazoo should be proud in having a citizen such as she.

Mrs. Mills was a member of St. Lukes Protestant Episcopal Church. She died Saturday, February 23, 1935. The funeral services were conducted by Archdeacon L. R. Vercoe of Grand Rapids in the absence of the rector, Reverend A. Gorden Fowkes.

Mrs. Burritt Hamilton of Battle Creek paid the following tribute to Mrs. Mills:

"In the holograph, to which I have referred,
Mrs. Mills, modestly, makes barest mention of her organization work. She mentions the Ladies' Library
Association --- of which she was a member some fifty

____. . 11 years; the Civic League, the Antituberculosis Society, the Community Club, the Old Ladies' Home, the War Mothers, the League of Women Voters. At some time she had been president of all, save one, of these. So, too, she had been president of the Michigan State Federation of Women's Clubs and, through many years, had served upon some of its more important committees. Every living past-president of the State Federation stands ready to attest the outstanding value of Mrs. Mills' work in that organization.

"The record in my possession makes mention of the fact that Mrs. Mills became president of the Women's Republican Club of Kalamazoo and attended three Republican State conventions as a delegate. The record fails to mention, however, her service as a member of the Board of Education. She was not attempting to write an autobiography.

"In my yard at home there is a maple tree which Mrs. Mills brought to me many years ago and which she planted with her own hands. Its generous shade gives rise to reflections. One recalls that leaders among Michigan women figuratively wore a path to Mrs. Mills' door. They sought her council, and always found it sound; they sought encouragement, never withheld. As a wife, mother, grandmother, civic worker, clubwoman, Mrs. Mills absorbed and im-

parted to others whatever was kindest and finest and wisest. She was an intellectual godmother to countless Michigan women. Memories of her fall across our lives like shafts of light.

"Mrs. Mills planted gracious contacts and reaped enduring friendships. The hospitality of her great heart provided warmth and comfort for her friends; it encompassed them all. As she advanced in years, friendships seemed to become the sustaining element in her life. Some time before her passing, she wrote to me in these words --- words perfectly reflecting her heart, her mind, her courageous, noble character:

""I am thanking you' (she said) "for a friendship that has been such a joy to me through so many lovely years.

'They come, they linger with us and they go -- The lovely years;
Into our hearts we feel their beauty grow; Through them the meaning of our life we know, Its joys and fears --- And nothing dies that ever was alive; All that endears and sanctifies the human, must survive; Of God they are, and in his smile they thrive THE IMMORTAL YEARS!

v . "On the fourth day after the two hundred third anniversary of Washington's birthday, the bell of St. Luke's tolled solemn notes, marking the passing of our beloved friend, Florence G. Mills. Her term of service exceeded that of Washington by nearly two decades. She served to the end.

"The centripital and centrifugal forces were so balanced in the character of Mrs. Mills that steady devotion to duty dignified her efforts and unswerving loyalty ennobled her friendships.

"Among my most treasured records there are memoirs in Mrs. Mills' own handwriting. These authentic documents testify, that Mrs. Mills was born in Rutland, Barry County, Michigan, November 28, 1851; that she was married in Porter, VanBuren County, Michigan, June 30, 1874 to Alfred J. Mills, later Circuit Judge; that her church was Episcopalian, her politics Republican.

"It further appears from this autographic record that Mrs. Mills' favorite pastime was "reading" Gardening was a diversion from which she reaped much joy. She particularly admired the work of the artist Turner and found strong appeal in the poems of Longfellow. "The Day Is Done" was her favorite poem.

'The day is done, and the darkness
Falls from the wings of night,

As a feather is wafted downward From an eagle in his flight. I see the lights of the village Gleam through the rain and mist, And a feeling of sadness comes o'er me That my soul cannot resist. Come, read to me some poem, Some simple and heartfelt lay, That shall soothe this restless feeling And banish the thoughts of day. Such songs have power to quiet The restless pulse of care, And come like a benediction That follows after prayer. And the night shall be filled with music, And the cares that infest the day, Shall fold their tents like the Arabs,

And as silently steal away. '

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CATHERINE L MINER 1843 - 1936

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Catherine LaGrange Rynearson was born near Leonidas, St. Joseph County, Michigan, July 24, 1843,
daughter of Abigail Roberts and Abraham Rynearson of
Holland and Scotch descent. When she was yet a small
child the family moved to a farm near Leonidas and
later to Mendon, Michigan, where she attended school.

Daniel Webster Miner, son of Hannah Harvey and William Miner, born in Leonidas, January 18, 1839. He attended school in Mendon, Michigan. He was a wood worker and had a shop in Mendon called the Cart Shop. For a time he conducted a dry goods store in Mendon.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Miner went to Kansas and after a few years returned to Mendon. He was very active as a member of the Odd Fellows and was an official in both state and local organizations and was an active Republican. The family attended the Congregational Church. Mr. Miner died June 16, 1908.

Mr. and Mrs. Miner were the parents of four children: William S., born Merch 28, 1866, married (1) Vina Wood, (2) Nellie Cummings, resides in Climax,

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Michigan; Charles A., born August 19, 1868, married Minnie McCall, resides in Kalamazoo; Stella A., born February 18, 1878, married Benjamin J. Cooley, resides in Oakland, California; Ollie G., married Bert W. Stratton, resides 1403 Douglas Avenue, Kalamazoo.

Mrs. Miner was devoted to her home and was interested in flowers and garden and was very fond of birds.

The family came to Kalamazoo in 1884, the year that Kalamazoo became a city. Prior to coming to Kalamazoo the family had lived for a time at Fulton, Michigan. When they returned from Kansas until they moved to Fulton they resided at Mendon.

Mr. Miner was a soldier in the Civil War. He enlisted as a private in Company K 19th Regiment Michigan Voluntary Infantry August 14, 1862, at Kalamazoo. His enlistment was for three years and his age was twenty-three. He was mustered in September 5, 1862, and discharged for disability at Cincinnati, Ohio, May 26, 1863.

Mrs. Miner died August 31, 1936. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend William C. Perdew and burial was made in Riverside cemetery.

Written November 4, 1936



WILLIAM LOYDE MINSHALL 1916 - 1945

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Staff Sergeant William Loyde Minshall, 36965483, Company E, 60th Infantry, 9th Division, First Army under General Hodges, was killed in action in Western Germany, presumably by shrapnel, April 3, 1945.

He was called into the armed service of the United States April 7, 1944, and received training at Camp Fannin, Texas. While there he broke the record in sharp shooting and was given a complimentary dinner. In August 1944 he came home on a fifteen day furlough, after which he went to Fort Meade, Maryland, and was shipped overseas.

He wrote home that at one time he was carrying bazookas and had two of them shot out of his hands. He was wounded in the ankle by shrapnel in December 1944, was cared for on the field and continued in the fight.

William was awarded an Oak Leaf Cluster and The Purple Heart Medal, which were sent to his mother. He was also promoted to Staff Sergeant and was transferred to a sniper group.

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His body was buried in the United States
Military Cemetery at Margraten, Holland, Plot UU,
Row 6, Grave 139, located about ten miles west of
Aachen, Germany.

After he had entered the army he was granted citizenship papers.

Birth and Education

William Loyde Minshall was born in Thamesville, Cntario, Canada, October 1, 1916, son of William Minshall, who was born in Canada July 12, 1895, of English, Irish and Scotch ancestry.

William's mother was Mabel Wygent Minshall, who was born in Van Buren county, Michigan, north of Paw Paw, October 22, 1898, of English, Dutch and Scotch descent.

William had one full brother, Irwin Claude

Minshall, who was born February 8, 1915, married

Lucille Hubbard and they became the parents of

Melvin LeRoy, born , and Norman Allen,

born . They reside at this time,

1946, in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

William, who was generally called Loyde, was raised by his mother and his step-father, Max Henry Geer, who was born in Decatur, Michigan, August 11, 1903, of French, Scotch and Dutch ancestry.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Henry Geer became the parents

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of:

Sarah Maxine, born June 6, 1922, married
Kenneth Gleesing, who was born April 29,
1926, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and they
became the parents of
Kenneth Lester, born
Clyde Max, born
Robert Lee, born
Diana June, born
Arlene Jean, born

Mettie Marie, born June 1, 1924, married
Russell Blair Areaux, who was born
May 7, 1919, and they became the parents
of
Marvin LaVerne, born
Walter Max, born
Lynford Ray, born
; and

Violet Irene, born

Loyde began his schooling in the Cherry Street School in Niles, Michigan, remaining for two years, after which the family moved to Bloomingdale and he went to school there for one and one-half years.

The family then moved to Pine street in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and Loyde attended the Harding School.

Then the family moved back to Niles, Michigan, and he attended the Eagle Street School. Moving again to Kalamazoo he entered the Roosevelt School and went through Junior High School. He also had one year of school in Paw Paw, Michigan, where he stayed with his grandmother.

Leaving school he found employment selling celery on the streets of Kalamazoo for Mr. Ran Wenke. He then entered Civilian Conservation Camp Moran

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near Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, and remained for three months, when he fell and broke his collar bone, was honorably discharged and came home. He helped his father cut wood that winter and then worked for the Levine Waste Paper Company. Later he was employed by the Therminsul Corporation in Kalamazoo for three years. After that he worked for the Kalamazoo Paraffine Company in Kalamazoo until he was called into the armed service.

Personal Characteristics

Loyde was five feet eleven and three-fourths inches tall, medium in weight, well muscled but slender in build. He had brown hair and blue eyes.

He was quite an athlete and liked all the games. While at Roosevelt School he was captain of the baseball and basketball teams. He liked to swim and hunt and dance. He studied the violin and played in the Roosevelt Junior High School orchestra. He also played in an orchestra in the Civilian Conservation Camp. He played the harmonica very well too.

Loyde was of a lively disposition, affectionately teased his sisters and mother and was devoted to his home and parents.

His step-father was a hero to him and he tried to have his name changed to Geer when he entered

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the army, but his application was too late as his papers had already been made out.

He was fond of his grandfather Wait, who lives on Lake street in Kalamazoo, and he helped to care for another grandfather during his last illness.

Loyde was a member of the Eagle lodge and when he was called into service the lodge gave him a life membership.

At one time he was a member of the Salvation Army Sunday School, enjoyed the services and tried to live by what he was taught there and in his home.

He was the soul of honor and integrity, honest in his dealings, generous to a fault, charitable toward others and quick to do a good turn to those in need.

Excerpts From Letters

Major General Russell B. Reynolds, Commanding United States Army, wrote:

"I hope that the passing days will bring you comfort and a consoling pride that your son gave up his life to set men free. His name will be an honored one among all who were privileged to know him."

Major General J. A. Ulio, The Adjutant General, wrote:

"I sincerely regret that this message must carry so much sorrow into your home. My deepest sympathy is extended to you in your bereavement."

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Captain J. H. Cisel, Personnel Officer of the 60th Infantry, wrote to Loyde's mother:

"His final resting place will forever be hallowed ground, his memory ever an inspiration for those of us who remain to carry on the struggle for which he so nobly gave all.

"The Commanding Officer expresses the earnest hope that you will be consoled by the knowledge that William died courageously, a credit to his Family, his Regiment, and his Country."

Lewis H. Macomber, Secretary of the Kalamazoo Paraffine Company, wrote to Mrs. Geer:

"We, the members of our organization and the employees who had worked with your son, feel his death very keenly. We had high hopes he would return healthy and sound and would take up again where he left off on entering the service. Your son's place had been saved for him in our postwar plans."

Tender and fine and loving, this splendid young citizen of Kalamazoo and of his country went out to serve under the flag, longing, hoping, praying to return to his native land, but willing, if need be, to lay down his life that his loved ones might live in peace and freedom. He made his sacrifice and the people of Kalamazoo honor him for it.

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PETER MOLHOEK 1860 - 1937

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Peter Molhoek was born at Texas Corners,
Kalamazoo County, Michigan, June 23, 1860, son of
Jane De Back and Leonard Molhoek of Holland descent.
He was reared on a farm near Twin Lakes and attended school in Kalamazoo after the family moved into this city while he was yet a boy.

His first business experience was with Phelps and Bigelow, for a short time, erecting wind mills. He then engaged in the sand and gravel business for about twenty-five years, after which he added the coal business. During the World War he sold out the coal business and went into the paving business. He also dealt in real estate for some time.

Mr. Molhoek was a very active Republican and was elected to the city council in 1905 from the fourth ward and served six years. Prior to his election to the council he was appointed street commissioner and served for one year.

November 6, 1884, Mr. Molhoek married Jennie Sinon and they were the parents of a daughter, Ada, who married Henry Newcastle of Kalamazoo and is the

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mother of Mildred Everdene, born October 1, 1911, and Phyllis Jane, born February 23, 1919.

For fifty-one years Mr. Molhoek was a member of the Second Reformed Church and for about twenty years was a member of the consistory of that church and for the last ten years served as an elder.

He was a very kindly man and was always helping others. He was devoted to his church and active in its work.

Death came to Mr. Molhoek March 5, 1937. The funeral was conducted by the Reverend J. J. Burggraaf and the Reverend Abraham DeYoung and burial was in Riverside cemetery.

Written March 12, 1937.

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HAROLD EDWIN MONGRAW 1921 - 1944

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Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Mongraw, 216 John street Court, Kalamazoo, Michigan, received a letter dated 4 February 1946, signed by James Forrestal, The Secretary of the Navy of the United States, from which the following excerpts are taken:

"Your son, Harold Edwin Mongraw, Aviation Radioman first class, United States Navy, has been carried on the official records of the Navy Department in the status of missing in action as of 12 June 1944. Your son's plane, attached to Torpedo Squadron ONE, took off from the USS YORKTOWN, to participate in an air strike against Orote Field, Guam, The Marianas. Your son's plane went down in flames after being hit by anti-aircraft fire which was heavier and more accurate than anticipated. To date, no further information has been received by the Navy Department concerning the fate of your son.

- ". . . the death of your son is, for the purposes of termination of pay and allowances, settlement of accounts, and payment of death gratuities, presumed to have occurred as of 19 January 1946."
- ". . . your son gave his life for his country, upholding the highest traditions of the Navy."

Harold joined the United States Navy early in August 1941 and received his boot training at the Great Lakes Training Station and then went to Indianapolis, Indiana, to work in radio in the

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True Laker training and received the fee his services of the s

Naval Armory. While he was on the way to Indianapolis war was declared against Japan. After attending radio school in Indianapolis Harold was transferred to Norfolk, Virginia, and went from there to Alemeda Air Station in California. There he joined a group and they were soon shipped out to the South Pacific, to the New Hebrides. He volunteered to go with the marines to the relief of the men on Guadalcanal on the Solomon Islands and was there from August 15, 1942, until well on into 1943, when he was sent back to the New Hebrides.

In March 1943 he was sent back to the United States and was home in Kalamazoo, Michigan, for two weeks in April, after which he returned to the Alemeda Air Station in California.

On July 29, 1943, he again left the United States for the Hawaiian Islands with the VTI squadron, the group with which he remained until his death.

They were based on different islands. Harold suffered somewhat from malaria and finally had to be hospitalized. He served as a radio-gunner and his serial number was 3117879 and was awarded a Presidential Citation for outstanding gallantry under fire. The following is a copy of the Presidential Citation of the First Marine Division.

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Reinforced; with which Harold fought:

"The officers and enlisted men of the First Marine Division, Reinforced, on August 7 to 9, 1942, demonstrated outstanding gallantry and determination in successfully executing forced landing assaults against a number of strongly defended Japanese positions on Tulagi, Gavatu, Tanambogo, Florida and Guadalcanal, British Solomon Islands, completely routing all the enemy forces and seizing a most valuable base and airfield within the enemy zone of operations in the South Pacific Ocean. From the above period until 9 December, 1942, this Reinforced Division not only held their important strategic positions despite determined and repeated Japanese naval, air and land attacks, but by a series of offensive operations against strong enemy resistance drove the Japanese from the proximity of the airfield and inflicted great losses on them by land and air attacks. The courage and determination displayed in these operations were of an inspiring order."

The following is a copy of a personal commendation of Harold Edwin Mongraw in a Citation signed by James Forrestal, Secretary of the Navy:

"For distinguishing himself by meritorious achievement while participating in an aerial flight as radioman in a carrier-based torpedo plane assigned to attack an enemy airfield in the vicinity of the Marianas Islands on 12 June 1944. In spite of intense and accurate antiaircraft fire which struck and seriously damaged his plane, MONGRAW successfully strafed buildings and aircraft repair shops, starting several fires in the target area. His skill and determination were of material assistance to his pilot in pressing home the daring attack. MONGRAW'S courageous devotion to duty in this engagement was in keeping with the finest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

A letter in the possession of Harold's parents describes vividly the experience of one of the pilots in the attack on Guam. The following is an

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excerpt:

"On the first strike at Guam Lieutenant Merrell set an example of courage and skill for those undaunted pilots, which was to be an inspiration for them in their following attacks. In the face of a terrific barrage of continuous A/A fire, and although his plane was hit and set on fire, he never wavered but successfully and skilfully completed his attack destroying important repair shops and buildings. After he dropped his bombs his plane was burning like a comet, and "Norm" was trying desperately to keep it under control. He failed to rendezvous after the attack." Lt. Merrell was Harold's pilot.

Harold kept a diary and the following are a few excerpts taken from it:

Sept. 3, 1942: "I am on the Navy transport the U.S.S. Fomahaut. Everyone is on the alert. Very dangerous waters. Eating very good. Also having ice cream and cokes."

Sept. 4: "Should reach the Solomons tomorrow. Everyone tense. General quarters from 3 in the morning on."

Sept. 13: "Don't feel well, had a high fever, 109 degrees to be exact. Went to hospital. Raid at noon, we got 14 bombers and 2 Zeros.

. . . Awakened at 11 by shell fire. They were very, very close. You couldn't move. Just wait and trust the Lord. I rolled off the stretcher just a second before shrapnel tore my cot to pieces. . . Finally got to our hole during a lull in the firing. . . We got out of our holes at 6 in the morning, tired, muddy, and very sick, and nervous."

Birth and Education

Harold Edwin Mongraw was born in Drumheller,
Alberta, Canada, March 3, 1921, son of Clarence
Mongraw, who was born in Canada December 6, 1894,
and his wife, Henriette Hodgeveem Mongraw, who was

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born in the Netherlands December 3, 1894.

Henriette Hodgeveem migrated to Saskatchewan,
Northwest Canada, in 1913, and lived there for some
years. It was there that she met Clarence Mongraw
and they were married March 24, 1920, in the Knox
Presbyterian Church in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.
While residing in Alberta they also became the
parents of Frank, who was born in Drumheller July
29, 1922, and is serving since 1940 in a six years
term in the Naval Air Force.

The family moved from Alberta to Kalamazoo, Michigan, in June 1923, and have resided nearly all the time at 216 John Street Court, where they live at the present time in 1946.

Harold first attended the McKinley School in Kalamazoo through the sixth grade and then went to the Vine Street Junior High School. He was graduated from Central High School in 1939.

He then attended the Kalamazoo College of Radio Science on South street, which was owned and operated by a Navy man, Kenneth Buck, who also gave his life in service.

Harold's brother Frank joined the Navy and was stationed for a time at Jacksonville, Florida, where he was visited by his parents and Harold.

After they returned to Kalamazoo Harold worked for

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Grinnell Brothers and then joined the Navy.

Personal Characteristics

Harold was five feet nine inches tall, was slightly built and had brown hair and blue eyes.

He enjoyed basket ball and base ball and played on Church teams and neighborhood teams. As a lad he and other younger boys organized the "Upjohn Midgets" and boasted they "could lick any team."

While in High School, he was at one time manager of the Central foot ball team. He was too light to make the team as a player. He liked all the athletic sports, especially swimming and dancing. He also liked to read.

His life was an open book. His manner was pleasing, his face attractive, his outlook was optimistic. He belonged to the Presbyterian Church.

He made friends easily, was an expert in comradeship, liked his teachers, loved his home and was devoted to his family.

Harold Edwin Mongraw gave his life to preserve freedom for us and extend it to others. The people of Kalamazoo are grateful and will cherish his memory.

The words of the following lines are appropriate:

"You died - to make it safe for us to live.

And we salute you with a silent prayer today."

- The relativistic Entertain

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The series of the Following Lines are appropriated

After the foregoing was written a letter was received by Mr. and Mrs. Mongraw from the Navy Department Bureau of Naval Parsonnel from which the following is copied:

"The Bureau has the honor to inform you of the Award of the Purple Heart and certificate to your late son, Harold Edwin Mongraw,

Aviation Radioman First Class, United States Navy,
in accordance with General Order 186 of January 21, 1943 which reads in part as follows:

"The Secretary of the Navy is further authorized and directed to award the Purple Heart posthumously, in the name of the President of the United States, to any persons who, while serving in any capacity with the Navy, Marine Corps or Coast Guard of the United States, since December 6, 1941, are killed in action or who die as a direct result of wounds received in action with an enemy of the United States, or as a result of an act of such enemy.'

"The medal is being forwarded under separate cover. Please acknowledge receipt on the enclosed form."

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CORNELIUS J MONNINGH 1873 - 1938

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Cornelius J. Monningh was born in Grand Haven, Michigan, May 4, 1873, son of Grace Bolhaus and Peter Monningh of Holland descent. He was reared and attended school in Grand Haven until he was seven years of age when the family moved to Chicago, Illinois, where he resided and attended school until he was fourteen years of age. The family then moved to Kalamazoo and Cornelius attended the parochial school of the First Reformed Church.

For about two years he worked for a son of the Reverend James T. Robe, who was engaged in the dairy business. From about 1890 to 1917, Mr. Monningh was employed by the Coleman Drug Company. After twenty-seven years with this company, he went into the drug business on his own account in 1917 in a building known as the Peck Building on East Michigan avenue and continued in business for about ten years, or, until 1927, when he sold out and spent several years travelling about the country visiting in California, Louisiana, and other places of interest.

In 1932, Mr. Monningh opened a drug store at

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1317 South Westnedge avenue, Kalamazoo, and continued in business in that location until his death.

Mr. Monningh worked out many formulas of value in the drug business and was widely and favorably known in his profession. He was a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and was a member of the First Reformed Church of Kalamazoo, but would sometimes attend the First Methodist Episcopal Church with his wife who belonged to that church.

Mr. Monningh was a great student and reader and gave much study to his Bible. He was very much interested in the Home for the Aged in Kalamazoo and helped to support it financially. He loved his home, was fond of flowers and was a great lover of Nature and would take long hikes through the woods in order to get close to her.

October 19, 1904, Cornelius J. Monningh was united in marriage with Nellie Coney, daughter of Isabelle Smith and Fletcher Coney. They were the parents of Helen Wilhelmina, who married Martin Gulser and resides in Chicago, and Cornelius Maxwell Monningh, who married Blanche Stebbins and resides in Kalamazoo.

Death came to Mr. Monningh by a bullet from the gun of a bandit who entered his store Wednesday

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evening, July 20, 1938, just before closing time.

He was rushed to Bronson Hospital and passed away at

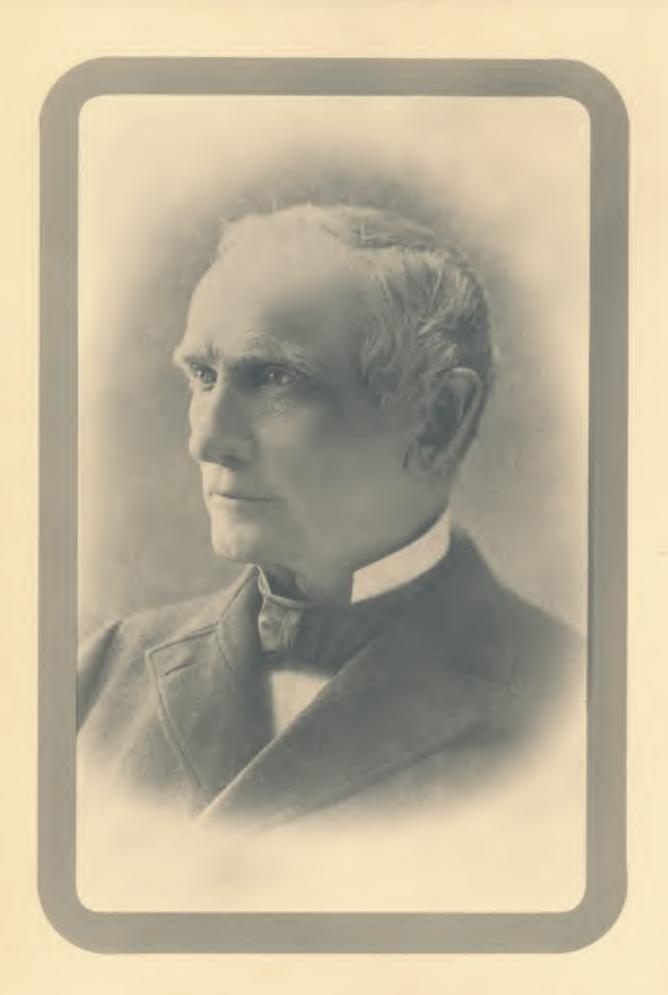
12:55 Thursday morning, July 21, 1938.

The funeral service was conducted by the Reverend William C. Perdew, pastor of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, assisted by the Reverend Claudius E. Jensen, pastor of the Trinity Lutheran Church of Kalamazoo. Burial was in the cemetery at Allegan, Michigan.

Written November 5, 1938.

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James Mouros



JAMES MONROE 1818 - 1899

James Monroe was born Christmas day, 1818, in Monroe County, N. Y., and would therefore have been 81 years of age his next Christmas. In 1883 he moved to Kalamazoo from South Haven and purchased the property which had since been his residence. Mr. Monroe's father was an old revolutionary soldier and lived to be 90 years of age. The Monroe family originated from three traditional brothers who came in an early day from Scotland. The grandfather of James Monroe was a soldier in the battle of Bunker Hill. The grandson learned the trade of molder and furnace maker at Roanoke, Genesee County, N. Y., and worked as a journeyman for some years. In 1837 he came to Michigan and engaged in a foundry at Jackson until 1846, when he built a machine shop and foundry at Albion and carried on the business until 1867. The business grew to large proportions and included the manufacture of farming implements of all kinds, threshing machines, etc.

In 1867 Mr. Monroe sold out and removed to South Haven and engaged in the manufacture of lumber, where he built a mill and ran it until 1874. On his

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removal to Kalamazoo he engaged in the same business, handling all kinds of hardwood finishings. At times Mr. Monroe had thirty portable mills at work at one time.

In 1850 James Monroe was elected sheriff of Calhoun County by the Whigs and held that office for two years. He was present at the gathering "under the oaks" at Jackson in 1854, when the Republican party was organized. He was elected as a representative of the Albion district to the legislature in 1857-59, serving three sessions, one being an extra. He gave his attention mainly to local legislation to secure land grants made in 1856-57 to the Amboy, Lansing and Traverse Bay railroad, Flint and Pere Marquette and G. R. and I. railroad. A company was formed to secure the franchise of the former railway and he was active and successful in securing the grant. Mr. Monroe was one of the company that graded the railway from Owosso to Lansing and from Jonesville to Eaton Rapids. In 1861 at the outbreak of the war of the rebellion he was appointed provost marshal at Albion by President Lincoln, but after some months resigned. Mr. Monroe was appointed by President Arthur to the position of United States marshal for the western district of Michigan

with office at Grand Rapids, filling the unexpired term from which death called John Parker of this city. Mr. Monroe held this office until March 1, 1885, discharging the duties until his resignation four days before Cleveland was inaugurated, but holding the position until November before his successor was appointed.

Mr. Monroe held federal office with honor, was honored by his former county with office, and in his declining years was elected by the franchise of the people of his city to the highest municipal office, that of the mayoralty, which he held in 1896-1897. He was made incumbent of the Kalamazoo post office under Harrison's administration and again received the appointment under President McKinley. In 1866 he was postmaster of Marshall. He had been a man of large business interests and activity and as years increased and as the infirmities of age crept on almost unaware, still held the reins of leader-ship.

Mr. Monroe was a great leader of his party in Michigan, especially in the south-western portion of the state. His closest and dearest friend was Senator Julius Caesar Burrows, for Mr. Monroe had more than a political interest in Mr. Burrows and

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spoke of him as "my boy". When a resident of South Haven he first saw the political possibilities of Senator Burrows' and at that time took up Mr. Burrows' cause. Mr. Monroe was always a leader in the politics of the old fourth congressional district and particularly in Van Buren County did his dictum have great weight. Mr. Monroe lived beyond the alloted time of man and saw his ambition realized and Julius C. Burrows in the United States Senate. Mr. Monroe had always been a liberal contributor to politics and he spent a small fortune for the cause of Republicanism. Many who wished to shy their castor into the political ring have been benefitted by his advise, the result of years of campaign management. He was the manager of Francis B. Stockbridge in his candidacy for the United States Senate, from the second term of which the latter was called by death. Mr. Monroe was also greatly interested in the election and re-election to Congress of Hon. E. L. Hamilton of Niles.

Mr. Monroe had always been in sympathy with the laboring man, he having been for 32 years a molder or foundryman. It is said of him that he was "of the people and for the people". Mr. Monroe was a social man and his hospitable home has been

the scene of political and public receptions both in Kalamazoo and in South Haven, and there was nothing he liked better than to entertain his gentlemen friends at dinner. His home was the rendezvous of the politicians of the state during every campaign year. A man of no airs, plain spoken and kind, he made all feel at home under his roof. His social nature found pleasure also as a member of the Cosmopolitan club, not now in existence. He was especially fond of young life and little children, even those not endeared by ties of blood were dear to this kindly old man. He could not pass a child on the street without speaking to it. Music and flowers had their place in his affection. The former was of the simple, melodious kind and the Moody and Sankey hymns were the ones he would request. He loved to see the flowers grow and watched their progress, only wishing they would grow "faster". Simple in his tastes, a pretty picture would appeal to him and arrest his attention. was fond of pets - and in these ways James Monroe kept close to nature and to children.

Tall, of spare build, with snow white hair, kindly blue eyes, possessing a smile which always ended in a kindly chuckle, with stooped shoulders -

such is the pen picture of James Monroe or "Uncle
Jim," as he was called by many who were not of kith
or kin. He knew no differences of nationality,
color or of social station. He liked the old and he
liked the young. He was indeed everybody's friend,
a man never too busy to stop on the street for a
chat as he passed along with an armful of papers to
read.

Mr. Monroe was married at Jackson in November, 1843, to Miss Harriet Valentine, who died in October, 1894. Those who survive are three daughters, Mrs. J. H. McCall, Mrs. M. S. Hovey of Chicago, Mrs. J. George RiRichardson of Kalamazoo A. Wolfe of Chicago; and the two grandchildren, Dr. James McCall and Master Monroe Wolfe, of Chicago, both of whom were named for their grandfather. Mr. Monroe lost his oldest child and only son, Cassius Clay at 2½ years of age. Helen Catherine, a daughter aged 16 years died at South Haven, and Herbert Strew McCall, oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. McCall and Mr. Monroe's first grandchild, was drowned in South Haven at the age of 10 years. This child was one of the great loves of his heart and although the years vanished with the flight of time the grief remained.

Other relatives were a brother, Leonard Monroe

 of Albion; Guy Monroe of Bellevue, a nephew; Mrs.
Sarah Howlett, Albion, a niece; and J. R. Towle of
Woodlawn, Chicago, a nephew.

James Monroe passed away Sunday evening at 10:35 after an illness of a few days at his home, 115 West Lovell Street, July 16, 1899.

Mr. Monroe attended a meeting of the board of directors of the City National bank of which he was a member, and on returning home he complained of a pain in his head. He was unconscious most of the time during his illness although he seemed to recognize members of his family during intervals. Mr. Monroe had not been well in six months, as there seemed to be a general breaking down, and during his last two months suffered much from headache.

The funeral services were held at the home on West Lovell Street, conducted by the Rev. John Gray, D. D., after which the remains were taken to Albion where the Rev. W. Jaquess of the Presbyterian Church of that city officiated and the body was laid to rest in a very elegant granite vault at Riverside Cemetery, a legacy of Dr. Stephen Monroe of Albion.

In the death of Mr. Monroe, Kalamazoo and Michigan lost a man of wide reputation and influence, of importance in state affairs and of prominence in

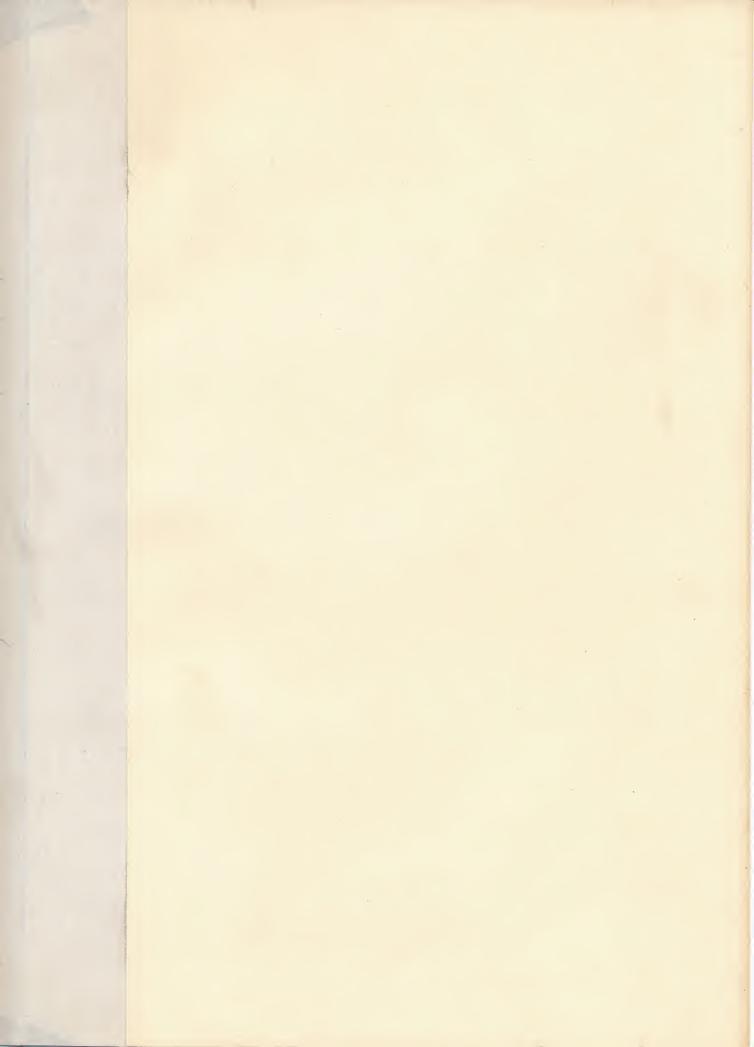
national politics. He had been a member of the state house of representatives, had been mayor, sheriff, United States marshall, had been twice postmaster, and had held other noteworthy offices in commercial and political life of a nature that had made his name familiar and respected by a much more than local circle of friends and acquaintances.

"Senator Julius C. Burrows paid the following tribute to his friend Mr. Monroe: "It was my good fortune, and I count it an inestimable privilege, to have formed the personal acquaintance of Mr. Monroe, familiarly called 'Uncle James,' soon after the close of the civil war, and from that time until the hour of his death, extending over a period of over 30 years, he was my close personal and political friend - a friendship which knew no 'variableness or shadow of turning. It is no disparagement for the fidelity of others to say that to him, more than to any one man, I am indebted for whatever of political preferment and success has come to me during more than a quarter of a century of my public life. In prosperity and adversity, in victory and defeat, he was the same unswerving, devoted friend. It may be true that we might not always be agreed, yet no disappointment, however keen, ever shook his con-

b. • fidence or dampened his ardor. He was always the same, wise counsellor and devoted friend. It is a source of profound gratification in this hour of bereavement that in the closing days of his life it was within my power to confer upon him an official favor, which gave him the assurance of my high appreciation of his friendship, and sweetened the memory of his declining years.

"His death is a blow from which his friends will not soon recover and is a loss to the city and state which cannot be readily repaired. amiable qualities of head and heart which drew men to him are well known and will be long cherished and remembered by those who enjoyed his confidence and friendship. Tractable as a child, tender and loving as a woman, he yet possessed all those rugged virtues which marked him as a man and made him a controlling force in every community where he resided. Free from all taint of personal or official corruption, he discharged every duty in life with unswerving fidelity and laid down its burdens at the journey's end of four score years in composure and peace, leaving to his friends the sweet memories of a life well spent. Let us keep his memory forever green."

(The above was written in 1936)





Revle. Lincoln Montgomery

AUTOBIOGRAPHY

OF

ULYSSES LINCOLN MONTGOÆRY
1865 - 1941

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I was born in Bethany, Illinois, July 22, 1865.

I am the seventh child of the Reverend George Washington Montgomery and Sarah Ann Rankin Montgomery.

My father was born in Blount county, Tennessee,

July 7, 1824. My mother was born July 22, 1832.

They were united in marriage by the Reverend William Brown, a Cumberland Presbyterian preacher, October 18, 1851, and to them were born twelve children, seven sons and five daughters. Of the seven sons, there was one physician, two lawyers and four Presbyterian ministers. Of the five sisters, one married a farmer, one married a teacher, one married a newspaper man, one never married and one died in infancy.

According to family records and contemporary histories, my great grandfather, Thomas Montgomery, was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, in 1748. In his early childhood his parents moved to Ireland. In 1768 or 1769 he and four brothers came with other

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Scotch-Irish immigrants to America, landed at New-castle, Delaware and later, he migrated to the western part of York county, Pennsylvania, which locality, since 1800, is within the area of Adams county, erected that year. Later he migrated with his family, to Washington county, Pennsylvania. Before coming to America, he was married to Mary Patton, February 5, 1758. He was a Revolutionary soldier and served under Colonel David Williamson. After the Revolution, Thomas Montgomery and his family moved into that part of North Carolina which later became Eastern Tennessee. This family is on the records of the "Baker's Creek Presbyterian Church" near Knoxville, Tennessee, and is dated 1817.

My grandfather, Samuel Montgomery, was married to Nancy Jones, daughter of Colonel Richard Jones, August 20, 1807. The officiating minister was the Reverend Samuel Doak, a Presbyterian and the founder of Doak College in East Tennessee. He served as a private under Captain James Gillespie and after he had served two terms was honorably discharged. In the year 1831 or 1832 he moved to Carroll county, Tennessee, and in 1851, he moved

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to Dade county, Missouri, and died there July 26, 1856.

My father, the Reverend George Washington Montgomery, was living in Dade county, Missouri, teaching school and preaching when the Civil War broke out. This was the very heart of the border warfare, and although he was born and reared in the South, he was bitterly opposed to secession. He did not believe that slavery was right and he knew that secession was wrong. My father was suffered to perform his kindly offices only upon condition that the Confederate flag should be permitted to float over his cabin, and he was finally ordered to become a recruiting officer for the Confederate army. Both my father and mother refused to do this and they moved into Illinois, where they reared and educated their children. They lived most of the time at Oakland in Coles county, but finally in Charleston in the same county. My father and mother and their oldest son, Dr. John Theodore, are buried in Mound cemetery at Charleston, Illinois.

I was graduated from Franklin College,
Franklin, Indiana, in the class of 1892, and from

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Western Theological Seminary in the class of 1897. The latter is located in Allegheny, Pennsylvania, now Pittsburgh. I was married November 10, 1892, to Miss Carrie E. Wiese, at Cumberland, Indiana. She died March 15, 1900. I have two children:

Emma Devona, born January 10, 1895, married E. C. Weaver June 20, 1920 - he has been a member of the faculty of W.S.T.C. since his graduation in 1920;

Carrie Wiese, born April 30, 1892, married
Fred M. Thrun, December 27, 1920,
in Kalamazoo, Michigan. They
live at River Rouge, Michigan.
He is a lawyer and works for the
government and she is legal advisor for Dr. Eugene Elliott,
with her office at Lansing, Mich.
They have two sons and a daughter.

I was married to Miss Hattie Elizabeth Sloan of Indianapolis, Indiana, December 21, 1904, by the Reverend David Heron, pastor of the Seventh Presbyterian Church of that city.

My father's rule for his sons was to let them go on their own after they had reached their eighteenth year and I entered college at Endfield, Illinois, to prepare myself to teach school. I taught school two winter terms and in the spring of 1885

I entered Franklin College and preached all the time I was there - at Shiloh, Groveland and New

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Winchester, Indiana.

In 1892, I became pastor of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Charleroi, Pennsylvania, and entered the Western Seminary. After two years I joined the Presbyterian Church and served as pastor of the Presbyterian churches at Dawson and Tyrone, Pennsylvania. After my graduation from the seminary I was called to the pastorate at Portersville, Pennsylvania. About three years later I was called to Thorntown, Indiana. From there I went to LaGrange, Indiana, and in 1907 I became pastor of the North Presbyterian Church, Kalamazoo, Michigan. In December 1916, I became pastor of the Washington Avenue Presbyterian Church in Saginaw, Michigan. This pastorate ended December 9, 1934, when I retired, having preached fifty-one years. I am now, 1939, living in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Death came to Mr. Montgomery December 28, 1941.

Funeral services were conducted in Kalamazoo by the Reverend Paul Silas Heath, D. D., pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, assisted by the Reverend Charles Johnson. The burial was at Saginaw, Michigan, and the Reverend William H. Fisher, D. D., pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Saginaw officiated there.

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Montague

THE MONTAGUES AND THEIR NAME

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The surname Montague, as the family which bears it, is of ancient origin. From a consideration of certain of the forms the name has assumed in the course of history, it appears likely that it derived originally from the Latin de monte acuto, meaning "of or from a pointed mountain or mountain-peak."

Some of the more common variants of the name in old records are the following: De Monte Acuto, Monteacuto, Montagute, De Montacute, Montaigu, Montagu, Mountagu.

There are records which lead some historians to trace the family's ultimate origin back over a thousand years. However, most authorities are content to begin with the founder of the English family of the name, one Drago de Montacuto. His name and arms appear in the Roll of Battle Abbey, a list of the Normans who accompanied William the Conqueror to England in 1066. It is supposed that for his services he received grants of land in Somerset, but the first direct evidence of a Montague possessing lands in England is in the reign

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of Henry III, when John de Montacuto, descendant of Drago, is known to have made a gift of the lordship of Harrington (Northamptonshire) to the Knights Hospitalers of St. John of Jerusalem.

Another descendant of Drago, Simon, was created first Baron de Montacute and, in 1300, was summoned to Parliament. During the fourteenth century the most conspicuous of the line was Lord William de Montacute, grandson of Simon. He was an adherent and personal friend of Edward III; and for saving the King from a serious plot he was, in 1337, created first Earl of Salisbury. By grant of the same Edward he obtained the Castle of Wark, in Northumberland.

In 1539 the Earls of Salisbury, who represented the elder branch of the family, became extinct.

After this the junior branch became prominent. The founder of this line was Sir Edward Montagu, born about 1500. He is believed to have been lineally descended from the Plantagenets; and from him descended those lines of Montague which included the earldom and dukedom of Montagu and of Manchester, the viscounty of Hinehinbroke, the earldom of Sandwich, the barony and earldom of Halifax, and yet other important titles.

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Sir Edward Montague, the second Earl of Manchester, was speaker of the House of Lords. Sir Charles Montague, Earl of Halifax, was Chancellor of the Exchequer and Prime Minister.

In 1554 Queen Mary created Sir Anthony Browne first Viscount Montague. (His grandmother, Lady Lucy, had been the daughter of the Marquis Montacute) Sir Anthony entertained at Cowdray, his family seat, both Edward VI and Queen Elizabeth. It may be interesting to note his amorial bearings, which are described as follows:

Arms. - "Sable, three lions passant in bond between four cotisses argent."

Supporters. - "Two lynxes argent, ducally collared, chained, and armed or."

Crest. - "On a wreath an eagle displayed vert, beaked and membered gules."

Motto. - "Suyvez Rayson."

One of the great governing families of England
- members of which have held every degree of peerage
from baron to duke and have been connected with
royalty - the Montagues have also distinguished
themselves in America.

According to extant records the first of the family in New England was Richard Montague. He came from Boveney, in Buckinghamshire, England; and he married Abigail, daughter of the Reverend Dr. Downing of Norwich. 1634 is regarded as the year

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of sailing, but the next mention of them is not until 1646, when they removed to Boston from Wells, Me.

In 1651, with their two daughters, they came to Wethersfield, Conn.; and still later they were numbered among the first settlers of Hadley, in the same state. Altogether they had five children: Mary, Martha, Peter, Abigail, and John.

The immigrant Richard had a brother, Peter, who came to America at about the same time or even earlier. According to some accounts Peter Montague arrived with Sir Francis Wyatt in 1621. It is known that he settled in Virginia, becoming an extensive land-owner and planter. His holdings lay in several counties, chiefly along the Rappahannock River.

It is stated by some experts that these two brothers, Richard and Peter, are descended from the extinct line of the Earls of Salisbury.

The descendants of these and other "first settlers" of the name of Montague have become numerous and widely scattered throughout the United States. Of the early Montagues it has been said that they showed "great caution in forming opinions, and great firmness in maintaining them when formed". The records of the American Revolution indicate that members of this family took a leading part in the

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Colonies' fight for liberty.

Typical of the many Montagues who have been leaders in American affairs is Andrew Jackson Montague, who became Governor of Virginia and a member of Congress.

In the old annals of the family these Christian names recur most frequently: Charles, Elizabeth, George, Harriet, James, Lucy, Richard, William.

The Boveney family in England (to which Richard and Peter the immigrants belonged) use the arms of the Sir Simon Montague who flourished about 1300 A.D., but with the addition of three ogresses. They are:

"Argent, three fusils in fess gules, between three pellets (or ogresses)".

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WILLIAM F. MONTAGUE 1848 - 1934

William F. Montague, 86, president and one of the founders of the Kalamazoo Pioneer Society, died at his home in Grand Prairie, west of this city, after an illness of seven weeks, June 3, 1935.

He was a former sheriff of Kalamazoo County,
was assistant postmaster under Andrew Shakespeare,
and in 1933 was a delegate to the Michigan convention
which ratified the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment.

Mr. Montague was president of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company from the time of its inception in 1902 until January, 1933, when he resigned. He was a lifelong Democrat and one of the outstanding leaders of his party in this section of Michigan.

Mr. Montague was born in Hadley, Massachusetts, August 6, 1848, the only child of Stephen S. and Lucy Kellogg Montague. He came to Kalamazoo when a child and attended the public schools here. He was the first person to be graduated from Parsons Business College nearly 65 years ago.

By a peculiar pattern of events, Mr. Montague survived his father by almost exactly half a century. S. S. Montague died June 6, 1885, at the same farm home, when he was 66 years old. His son was under-

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 sheriff of the county at the time. The elder Montague settled on his farm in Kalamazoo County in 1858.

Mr. Montague was married to Susan Latta, May 9, 1878. The bride at that time residing in the home which at the present time is the club house at the Maple Hills golf course. Mr. and Mrs. Montague celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1928. Mrs. Montague died the following year. During their entire married life they resided on the farm in Grand Prairie. In 1930 the old homestead burned to the ground and a new home was built on the same site.

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Mrs. Susan Montague

S U S A N M O N T A G U E 1852 - 1929

Mrs. Susan Montague, 77, wife of William F.

Montague, president of the Farmers Mutual Insurance
Company, died at her home four miles west of Kalamazoo, following a week's critical illness with influenza. Mrs. Montague had been in failing health
since a fall suffered in 1927 when she sustained a
hip fracture. She died August 31, 1929.

Mrs. Montague was Susan Almeda Latta, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Albert Latta, pioneer residents of the county. She was born in Niagara County, New York, in 1852, and came to Kalamazoo County with her parents when two years of age. The Lattas settled on a farm now owned by the Maple Hills Golf Club and she spent her girlhood there.

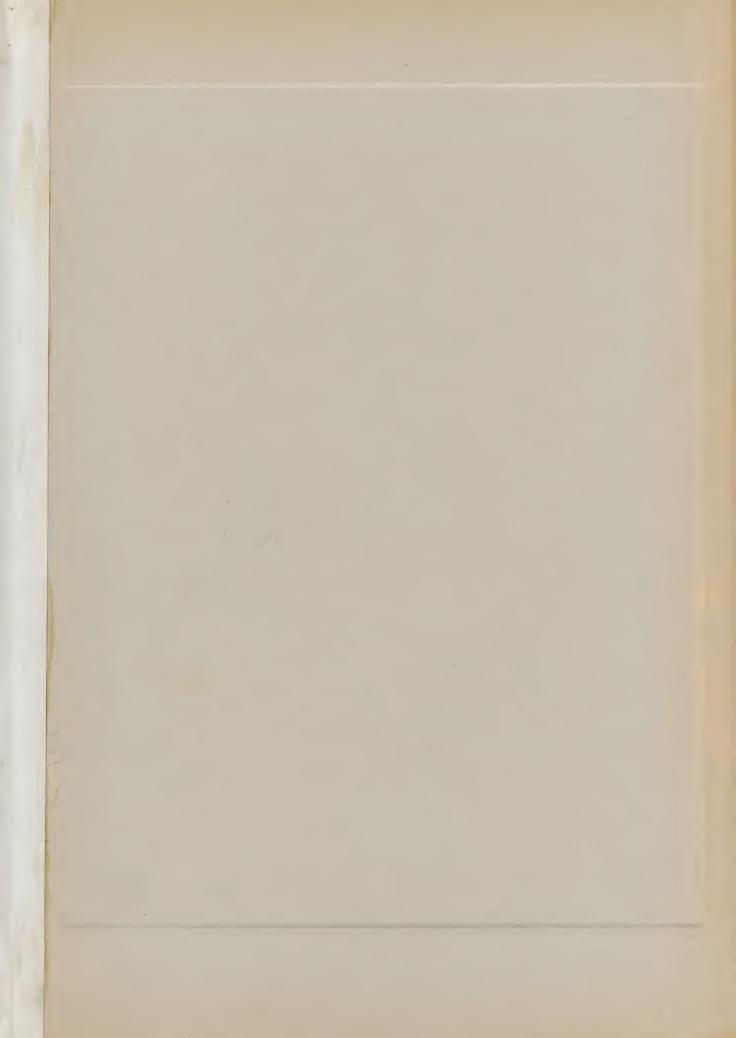
Mr. and Mrs. Montague celebrated their golden wedding anniversary May 9, 1928. They have been very active in the affairs of their community and of this city. She was a member of the First Methodist Church and the L. M. L. Club. He is the president of the Pioneer Society of Kalamazoo County.

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JOHN R MOORE 1876 - 1938

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John R. Moore was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, November 25, 1876, the son of James and Nancy Moore. He was educated in the public schools of Kalamazoo.

As a young man, Mr. Moore entered the employ of Bryant, Barnett and Babcock, shoe merchants, one of whom was Willard M. Bryant, who later engaged in the insurance business.

In the late summer of 1900, Mr. Moore joined Gilmore Brothers to establish and manage the shoe department of that store. He served as manager of the shoe department for several years with such efficiency that he was promoted to the responsibility of general manager.

During his long business career, Mr. Moore was active in other fields as well. He served as a director of the Chamber of Commerce and was at one time chairman of the Chamber's convention bureau. He was also a state director of the American Automobile Association, and a member of the Rotary club. He enjoyed playing golf and was an enthusiastic horseman. His principal interest, however, was his

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Mr. Moore was married in Kalamazoo, December 6, 1905, to Miss Mary Brown and they were the parents of one daughter, Elizabeth, who married Stuart Irvine of Kalamazoo. Mr. Moore had three sisters, the Misses Grace and Mary Moore and Mrs. Charles A. Wise, and one brother, George I. Moore, all of Kalamazoo.

Death came to Mr. Moore at 6:15 P. M., Tuesday,
April 26, 1938, at his home, 113 South Prairie avenue,
Kalamazoo. Dr. John Wirt Dunning, pastor of the
First Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo, conducted the
funeral service and burial was in Mountain Home cemetery.

Dr. Dunning said of Mr. Moore:

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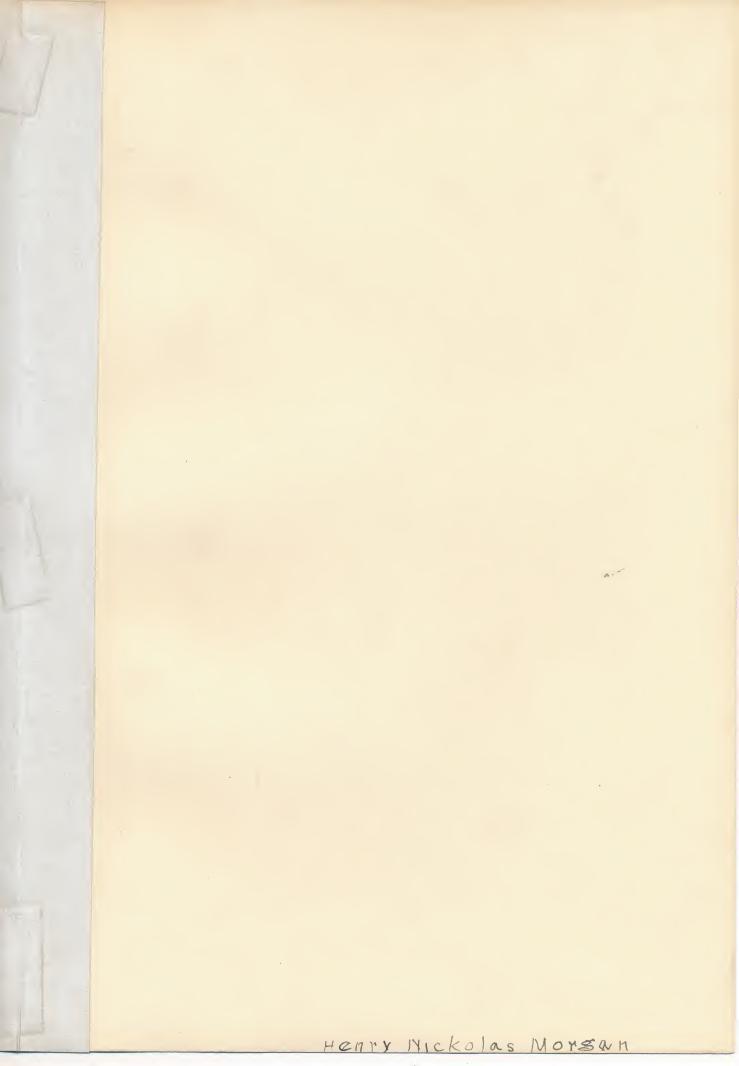
know that the land ahead is richer."

Dr. Dunning recalled Mr. Moore's qualities of integrity, his enthusiasm for his tasks and the "generous spirit of his heart and soul that made us love him."

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HENRY NICKOLAS MORGAN 1916 - 1940

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Henry Nickolas Morgan was born in Kalamazoo,
Michigan, August 31, 1916, son of Henry and Mary
Musselman Morgan. The grandparents of Henry N.
came from the Netherlands. He was graduated from
the Central High School in Kalamazoo in 1934 and
then took work in Parsons Business College. He
entered Hope College, Holland, Michigan, in 1935
and received the degree of Bachelor of Arts in 1939,
after which he became a student in the New Brunswick
Theological Seminary in New Brunswick, New Jersey,
under the auspices of the Reformed Church of America.

During the summer of 1940, Mr. Morgan served as paster for sixteen weeks of the Reformed Church at Aurriesville, New York. This is one of the very old churches of that communion. During this brief service as student paster he received five members into the fellowship of the church.

September 5, 1940, he was married to Marie Karmen of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and together they returned to New Brunswick and he resumed his theological studies.

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Henry N. Morgan's oldest brother is Herman
Henry, born June 17, 1908; he had another brother
with the same name as his own, Henry Nickolas, born
June 17, 1913, who died May 5, 1914; and there was a
sister, Donna Marie, born August 17, 1926, who died
July 27, 1935.

All the family are members of Bethany Reformed
Church in Kalamazoo and Henry was active as a
Sunday school teacher and in various other capacities.
He was a very promising young man and enthusiastically
devoted to the Christian ministry.

Death came to him in New Brunswick, New Jersey, November 28, 1940. There was a short funeral service at the Theological Seminary chapel with John Vruink, president of the student body, and Dr. Milton Hoffman officiating. The body was then brought to Kalamazoo and funeral services conducted at the Bethany Reformed Church the following Monday at 2 P. M. with Dr. Jacob VanderMeulen, of the Western Theological Seminary at Holland, Michigan, the Reverend J. A. Veldman, and Peter Vandenberg, representative from the New Brunswick Seminary, officiating. The burial was in Riverside cemetery.

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EDWARD STEPHEN MOSKALIK 1917 - 1944

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Private Edward Stephen Moskalik, one of five sons of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Moskalik, 818 East Walnut street, Kalamazoo, Michigan, in war service, was killed in action in France August 8, 1944. He participated in the invasion of Normandy and met his death at St. Lo after more than two years in service. At the time of his death he was an ambulance driver.

Birth and Education

He was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, October 25, 1917, son of Stephen and Julianna Ozel Moskalik, both of whom were born in Poland and were married in that country. They came with their oldest child to Detroit, Michigan, about 1914, remained in Detroit for a time and then came to Kalamazoo, Michigan. Most of the time they have resided on the southeast side of Kalamazoo and in 1920 made their home at 818 East Walnut street, where they live now, in 1946. They also became the parents of:

Pauline, born in Poland January 18, 1912, married Walter Chmiel and they became the parents of four children and reside in Comstock, Michigan;

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- Peter, born September 7, 1915, in Kalamazoo, married Helen Wajdyla and resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan and has two children - Peter was a Private in World War II;
- Stella, born in Kalamazoo August 8, 1916, resides with her father in Kalamazoo;
- Stanley, born in Kalamazoo November 16, 1918, married Ruth Downs and resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and he was a Sergeant in World War II;
- Ann, born in Kalamazoo July 5, 1920, married Ed Chmiel and resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan;
- Alvin, born in Kalamazoo June 29, 1922, married Viola Madgyesi and resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and he was a Private First Class in World War II;
- Christian, born in Kalamazoo March 11, 1924, and resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and he was a Private in World War II; and
- Cecelia, born in Kalamazoo November 21, 1926, and lives with her father in Kalamazoo.

The mother of this family died December 29,1928.

Edward attended St. Joseph's Roman Catholic
Parochial School and then the Roosevelt School for
Junior High School work after which he entered
Central High School.

Later he felt the urge to get to work and left school to drive a truck and then was employed by the Kalamazoo Stove and Furnace Company until he was called into the armed service of the United States and was assigned to the Medical Corps, which was his choice and also the choice of his brother Stanley.

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Edward was called to service in February, 1942.

Alvin was drafted December 7, 1942. Christian enlisted early in 1943, leaving Kalamazoo February 8, and Peter was called the same year. All five brothers served overseas and three of the four living brothers received Purple Hearts. Christian was critically wounded on the battle field in France and his leg was amputated at the hip.

Recreations

Edward had an injury to his knee which kept him from participating in the usual games of the neighborhood. He attended wrestling matches and base ball and foot ball games and enjoyed music, the radio and the movies. He especially liked to listen to world news over the radio and to hear the commentators among whom Gabriel Heatter was his favorite.

One of his hobbies was photography and he greatly amused the neighborhood by showing the folk their pictures in their old clothes and without fancy hair-dos as they were caught by this amateur candid photographer.

Personal Characteristics

He was five feet eight inches tall, of medium weight, and the shortest of the five boys. He had dark brown hair hazel eyes and a dark skin.

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Edward was called "Bongo" by his friends and had other nicknames from childhood.

He liked to read books especially relating to world and national affairs and would talk politics or debate with those who would disagree with him. He and his father had many good natured arguments.

He was shy in manner until he became acquainted.

He was confirmed in St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, attended faithfully the eight o'clock Mass and adhered faithfully to the teachings of his Church.

He was an interesting young man, happy, calm and placed in disposition, kindly and thoughtful in his relationships and popular in his neighborhood and in his Church group. He always wanted to travel and got this his heart's desire.

Edward Stephen Moskalik went out from

Kalamazoo to pay the supreme price in his country's

need. His fellow citizens pay him homage and

salute him as one who died in their stead.

"Now, the soldier's task is o'er,
Now, the battle day is past.
Now, upon the farther shore
Lands the voyager at last.
Father, in Thy gracious keeping
We leave him, Thy soldier, sleeping."

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DONALD CARLTON NEAL 1924 - 1944

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Private First Class Donald Carlton Neal was killed in action on Saipan June 22, 1944, one week after he landed on that island. Early that morning, about 2:30 or 3 A. M., Donald was instantly killed by a shell burst from Japanese artillery. Within twenty minutes twenty-three men were killed and eight or ten wounded. Don's body was buried on Saipan, but will be interred in Riverside cemetery, Kalamazoo, Michigan, when the government brings the body home.

Birth and Education

He was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, November 5, 1924, son of Clarence A. Neal, who was born August 12, 1897, in Michigan, and served in World War I in the 56th Ammunition Train. His ancestors were Scotch-Irish.

Donald's mother was Svea Hildegarde Carlson Neal, born in Trout Creek, Michigan, May 21, 1897, of Swedish ancestry. They were married in Kalamazoo, Michigan, September 21, 1917, and made their home in Kalamazoo county. Since 1925 until now in 1946,

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they have resided at 3257 Miller road. They also became the parents of:

Roy, born March 12, 1919, married Dorothy Laverack of Comstock, Michigan, and they became the parents of Jack, born August 17, 1939, and Duane, born September 7, 1940;

Helen, born May 21, 1921, died February 6, 1925;

Betty Jane, born July 24, 1923, and died the same day.

Donald began his schooling at the Elm Rose
School, Comstock township, Kalamazoo county,
Michigan, when he was five years old, and continued
there until he was graduated from the eighth grade.
He then entered the Vine Street School in Kalamazoo
and entered Central High School in his sophomore
year and was graduated at the age of sixteen years
in the class of 1941.

The summer of 1941 he worked at Borgman's Grocery on Cameron street in Kalamazoo and in the fall enrolled as a freshman in Western Michigan College of Education, taking a pre-law course with the expectation of joining the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

On January 19, 1943, he enlisted in the United States Marines and was sent to San Diego, California, at once, for training and never had a furlough. He was assigned to Platoon 72 R. D. M.

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C. B., and then at Headquarters Company Service

Battalion at San Diego. He was then sent to nearby

Camp Elliott for advanced training, after which he

went overseas September 20, 1943, with the 2nd

Division Marines. He was almost immediately put

into combat and was in the fighting at Tarawa, where

he nearly lost his life by drowning and received a

Presidential Citation and was promoted to Private

First Class.

Following Tarawa Donald was sent to the

Hawaiian Islands and was trained all that winter.

In June 1944 he was on Saipan where he made the supreme sacrifice. Clarence Maisano, a pal of Donald's, was wounded the same day Donald was killed. He was instrumental in saving Donald's life previously and he wrote of Donald's last night on Saipan, that Donald was an automatic rifleman and was struck by a bursting Japanese shell.

Mr. and Mrs. Neal received the Purple Heart awarded to Donald posthumously carrying the citation for military merit and wounds in action resulting in death.

Memorial services were held for Private First
Class Donald Carlton Neal at 2:30 P. M., Sunday,
August 20, 1944, the Reverend Herbert Miles, Congregational minister, officiating, in the Methodist

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Church at Comstock. The members of the Luzon-Argonne post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, took part in the services with Aloysius Higgins in charge.

In memory of their son Donald, Mr. and Mrs. Neal made a memorial gift of one hundred dollars to the fund which is to be used for the erection of a chapel on the campus of Western Michigan College of Education.

Personal Characteristics

He was five feet ten and three-quarters inches tall, of medium weight, and had dark brown hair and blue eyes and a dark complexion. He had a wonderful smile which showed perfect teeth in a fine open countenance.

Donald played football and baseball, and organized neighborhood baseball teams to compete with other teams. He played on a training team at Western Michigan College of Education, in football. He liked to swim and hunt and all the sports appealed to him.

He played the guitar and was a member of the Omega Delta Phi fraternity at Western Michigan College of Education and enjoyed greatly the fine fellowship it afforded. Donald was an expert in comradeship. The boys respected and loved him for his steadfast loyalty.

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Donald had a very happy disposition and was affectionate with his father and mother and brother. He made much of his brother's wife and small sons. He liked dogs and always had two or more of them as his play fellows.

He was humorous, being of Irish heredity, he enjoyed jokes. No boy left the neighborhood with more friends and when the news of his death came there were many who felt that Donald was their personal hero who had gone to battle in their stead.

His gentlemanly qualities revealed his parental training. He was generous but not wasteful, prodigal in love and kindness. He was interested in things eternal and his choice for Church attendance was the First Methodist Church of Kalamazoo.

One of his buddies, Tony Malone, wrote:

"When we were relieved from the front lines the first thing he did was to go to the cemetery and say a prayer for our buddies.

"Your son was a great guy and a good man up on the lines. . . He didn't die in vain - he still lives with us."

Donald Carlton Neal played well his part in the game of life, making all with whom he came in contact better for having known him. He lives as an abiding presence in their lives today.

The lines of the poem on the following page are appropriate:

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"You'll never know the tragedy of growing old -Of suffering or loneliness and pain, Because your life so brief - was colorful and gay, A life that knew no loss, but only gain, And now we hear you will never return again To them who knew and loved you through the years. A gallant marine - just a youth - and we are proud Of you - although our eyes are dim with tears. You left behind a chain of golden memories To comfort those who cherished you from birth -And life will never be completely desolate While they possess these gifts of priceless worth. You made the greatest sacrifice a man can make, You died - to make it safe for us to live. And we salute you with a silent prayer today -The best and only gift your parents give."

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STEPHEN JOSEPH NELSON 1923 - 1944

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Second Lieutenant Stephen Joseph Nelson was killed in action while he was a pilot in a single seater P-51 Mustang fighter plane engaged with a bomber escort squadron on August 2, 1944. His body was buried just outside Cambridge, England, in an American Military Cemetery, Plot E, Row 6, Grave 10.

Stephen enlisted January 27, 1942, and became Army Serial Number 0-756113. He was inducted at Fort Custer, Michigan, received his basic training at Jefferson Barracks and was sent to Scott Field for radio training. He was graduated as a radio mechanic July 28, 1942, and was sent to Harlingen, Texas, for aerial gunnery training. He was graduated as an honor student with the wings of an aerial gunner August 27, 1942, and was then sent to Columbus, South Carolina, for group training. He was appointed aviation cadet while there and received flight training at Santa Ana, California, Blythe, California, Pecos, Texas, and Chandler, Arizona, where he received his wings as a twin motored fighter pilot October 1, 1943.

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overseas May 1, 1944.

Memorial Services

Memorial services for Lt. Stephen Nelson were held in the Bethel Baptist Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan, at 3 P. M., October 1, 1944. The Reverend Richard Barram, a former pastor, officiated and was assisted by Chaplain Wilson R. Lampher of Kellogg Field. Four air force officers from Kellogg Field formed the honor guard and a Kellogg Field bugler sounded "Taps" at the conclusion of the service.

Music was furnished by Mrs. Charlotte Richardson, vocal soloist, with Burton Barber at the organ.

Stephen's Birth and Family

Stephen Joseph Nelson was born in Kalamazoo,
Michigan, October 29, 1923, son of James Edward
Nelson, whose ancestors were of Scotch, Irish and
English descent. He was born in Traverse City,
Michigan. Stephen's mother was Vera Esther Dundon
Nelson, whose ancestors were mostly Irish.

Mr. and Mrs. James E. Nelson were also the parents of:

Kendrick Dundon, who was born August 29, 1915, married Grace Goudy, was Private First Class, a radio instructor in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, and resides now, 1946, in Kalamazoo, Michigan;

Leo James, born September 7, 1917, married Carmen Sleep and they became the parents of Jerry

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Lyle Edward, born September 19, 1919, became a Corporal in a Marine Corps;

Phyllis L., born December 18, 1921, married Arthur Matteson and they became the parents of Janet Marie and Diane Elizabeth, and reside in Kalamazoo, Michigan;

Joel and Paul, twins, born February 24, 1925, both in the United States Navy;

Esther Marion, born December 3, 1927, resides with her parents and is employed in the First National Bank; and

Carol Lynn, born

Stephen Nelson attended Lincoln and Central High Schools in Kalamazoo and was graduated from Central High in June 1941.

He found employment for three months in a canning factory in Illinois and then worked in the Woolworth store in Kalamazoo until he enlisted.

Personal Characteristics

Stephen was five feet ten inches tall and weighed about one hundred sixty pounds. He had medium brown hair and brown eyes.

He enjoyed all sports, was an enthusiast for golf, liked to swim, was a member of the track team at Central High School and accompanied his father on trips to troll for trout. He was musical and belonged to the glee club, a mixed quartet and the a capella choir at Central High School.

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Stephen Nelson was, as a lad, a member of the Boy Scouts. He was a member of the Bethel Baptist Church in Kalamazoo and was active in the work of the Church and Sunday school.

While in the armed services he was highly esteemed by his instructors and his fellow soldiers. He attended worship services in the chapels and in churches.

His parents say he was the life of the family, very witty and in for family fun. He was well liked by all who knew him. He was just another of Kalamazoo's best young men who gave his life that this might be a better world. It is for those who remain to see to it that they did not die in vain.

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FRANCIS BENJAMIN NORMAN 1922 - 1943

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Seaman Francis Benjamin Norman was declared officially dead by the United States Navy Department as of October 20, 1943, when the submarine on which he was a member of the crew was reported missing in the Atlantic Ocean, while on a patrol assignment.

Francis entered the service August 31, 1942, and received his "boot" training at the Great Lakes Training Station. He last visited his parents December 7, 1942, after which he attended a submarine school at Norfolk, Virginia, and at New London, Connecticut, before putting to sea October 6, 1943, just two weeks before the submarine Dorado to which he was assigned was reported missing with its entire crew.

Francis's Birth and Education

Francis Benjamin Norman was born in Richland township, Michigan, March 22, 1922, son of George L. Norman and Lina Pearl Smith Norman, of Dutch and English descent.

Norma Aileen, Francis's oldest sister, was born March 11, 1921, and died the same day.

Loren Douglas, Francis's only brother, was born

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February 27, 1925, attended Central High School in Kalamazoo, Michigan, served one year on the steam ship Madison and is now, 1946, a coxswain on the steam ship Baltimore.

Laura E. Norman, another of Francis's sisters, was born October 24, 1926, and married James Oswalt.

Shirley Elaine Norman, Francis's youngest sister was born August 31, 1928, and attended Central High School and resides with her parents at 825 Regent street.

When Francis was four years old the family moved to Parchment, Michigan, and he entered the public school at Parchment and later attended the Gull Road School. He was graduated from the eighth grade at the Burke Acres School, after which he went to Lincoln Junior High School and was graduated from Central High School in June 1940.

After graduation he was employed for about six months by the Kalamazoo Vegetable Parchment Company and then went to The Bryant Paper Company until he entered the armed services of the United States.

For six weeks Francis was at Key West, Florida, and on October 6, 1943, just before putting out to sea, he telephoned his mother and that was the last she heard from him.

Personal Characteristics

Seaman First Class Francis Benjamin Norman was five feet eleven inches tall and weighed about two

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hundred ten pounds. He had dark hair and gray eyes. He played on the base ball team of the Parchment Community Methodist Church, also a base ball team while at Norfolk, Virginia. He also played foot ball and basket ball.

Francis, as a lad, belonged to the Boy Scouts and later was assistant Scout leader. He was interested in collecting stamps and enjoyed fishing and swimming. He studied botany and was fond of flowers and birds.

He started to attend the Church school at the Parchment Community Methodist Church at the age of five years and made the record of attending for three years without missing.

Memorial services were held in the Parchment

Community Methodist Church at 2 P. M., Sunday,

September 23, 1945. The pastor, the Reverend

Victor W. Thrall officiated and The American Legion

and Troop 40 of The Boy Scouts of America attended.

The text printed upon the folder used at the services

reads: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a

man lay down his life for his friends," John 15:13.

Francis was another of Kalamazoo's fine young men who gave his life to make a better world and it is for those who follow to see to it that their sacrifice was not in vain.

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MR. & MRS.

GEORGE H NEWKIRK

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George H. Newkirk was born at Hillsdale, Michigan, February 14, 1864, son of Myron and Priscilla Newkirk. He was one of six children: Fred and Clara are deceased; Arthur resides in Otsego, Michigan; Newton resides in Nebraska; and Jesse lives in Kalamazoo, Michigan; Newton died December 13, 1941.

While George was yet a tiny baby the family moved to Decatur, Michigan, where he attended school.

On February 22, 1886, he was married to

Naouri Bradford, daughter of Werlin and Melissa Scott

Bradford of Scotch and English descent. Naouri was

born in Porter, near Lawton, Van Buren county, Michigan, April 14, 1869. They began housekeeping in

Porter township, where they resided until 1906, when
they moved to Ross township, Kalamazoo county, where
they purchased a farm of eighty-two acres on the east
shore of Gull Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Newkirk became the parents of:

Lester M., born March 25, 1887, married Grace Frie and became the father of Eloise, born July 30, 1915, Lester George, born September 29, 1923, and resides in Midland Park, Ross township;

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- Berenice, born in Porter township, Van Buren county, Michigan, October 7, 1889, married Ralph Hinga, became the mother of Robert Ralph and Maxine Elizabeth and resides in Westfield, Massachusetts
- Harold E., born in Porter township Oct.2, 1891, married Vera Barbour, became the father of Duane Edward, deceased; Margaret, Marian and Marylyne, and resides in Augusta, Michigan;
- Roland Max, born in Porter township May 6, 1905, married Muriel Lindsey, became the father of Linda Charlotte, is a musician, and resides on the home farm.

George H. Newkirk was a Republican in politics and served as highway commissioner for Ross township and as a member of the school board. At one time he belonged to the Modern Woodmen of America and was a member of the Maccabees. In personal appearance he was about five feet, eight inches tall and weighed about one hundred thirty-six pounds with brown hair turning gray and brown eyes.

Mr. and Mrs. Newkirk attended and were members of the Porter Methodist Church and when they moved to Ross township they had their membership transferred to the Methodist Church in Hickory Corners where they were both active. Mrs. Newkirk likes to do hand work and he enjoyed seeing a good game of base ball.

Death came to Mr. Newkirk with a heart attack

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Saturday afternoon August 2, 1941, at his home. The funeral was held the following Tuesday and burial was in the Hickory Corners cemetery.

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MR. & MRS. CHARLES W NEWMAN 1857 = 1941

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Charles W. Newman was born in the state of New York August 31, 1857, son of Decatur Newman, who was born in the Netherlands, and Caroline Newman, who was also born in the state of New York of Dutch forbears. They were also the parents of Pierson, Solomon, Albert, Willis, Frank and three children who died in infancy.

When Charles was six years of age the family moved to Michigan and settled in Prairie Ronde township, about six and one-half miles southwest of Schoolcraft. After some time Decatur Newman bought a larger farm near the community known as Pleasant Valley, where he lived for many years and died at the age of eighty-five years. His wife Caroline lived to be ninety-one years of age and died at Marcellus, Michigan.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Decatur Newman attended the Pleasant Valley School and helped their parents in the hard pioneering life of that day. Charles learned early to be self supporting.

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November 21, 1880, Charles W. Newman was married to Jennie Giddings, who was born

daughter of John and Isabel Butcher
Giddings of English stock. Miss Giddings had been
named Mary Jane, but the children at school nicknamed
her "Mamie", much to her distress, which the teacher,
Christopher Howard, saw, and said, "I'll name you,
Jennie," This pleased the little girl and thereafter
she was known as Jennie Giddings.

After their marriage in Union City, Michigan, by the Reverend H. H. VanAuken, a Congregational minister, Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Newman lived for about three months with Mr. Newman's brother, with whom he had been working, and then they established themselves in a home by themselves in the village of Union City. Later they purchased a home. He did carpenter work and was a hay contractor.

Mr. and Mrs. Newman became the parents of:

Claude, born August 14,1881, married Louise
Weatherbee and they became the parents of
Leone, born September 22, 1903, married
Frank Finley and they became the
parents of Claude, Russell, Marie
and reside in Coldwater, Michigan,
Inez Eloise, born May 8, 1906, married
Charles Cuyler and they became the
parents of Isabel Grace, who married Paul Sims and they became the
parents of Sandra Kay; and
(2) Richard Maynard;

Isabel, born March 11, 1883, married R. W. Doyle and they became the parents of Richard Newman, born December 21, 1915;

^{*} Died June 30, 1913

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Roy, born July 23, 1886, died as a result of a hunting accident Nocember 14, 1907;

Ernest, who married Beulah Cowgill and they became the parents of Isabel Grace, born May 28, 1915, Richard Maynard, born August 14, 1918, and Ronald, born; and

Another child who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Newman lived for twenty-one years in Union City, where he was very successful in buying houses which he would improve and then sell at a profit.

By this time Mr. Giddings, the father of Mrs.

Newman, wanted his daughter to come back and be near her parents, so Mr. and Mrs. Newman purchased the Giddings farm in Prairie Ronde and did general farming for about fifteen years. Mr. Newman was a good stock man, gave his animals good care and took great pride in his horses. Their son Ernest took over the farm and added more land to it and the parents moved into Marcellus, where they resided for nine years and then moved to Schoolcraft, Michigan, and purchased a home. Mrs. Newman's mother died November 18, 1914, aged seventy-nine years. Her father, John Giddings, lived to be ninety-four years old and died in 1930.

Charles W. Newman passed away in Schoolcraft,
Michigan, October 19, 1941. Funeral services were
conducted October 21 by the Reverend Orie Robinson,
pastor of the Assembly of God, and burial was in the

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Pleasant Valley cemetery.

In personal appearance, Mr. Newman was a fine looking man, six feet tall and weighing about one hundred eighty pounds, with dark hair turning white and hazel eyes. He was socially inclined, but was a good listener. His greatest hobby was fishing. He was highly regarded in his community for his business ability and his personal integrity. His word was as good as his bond.

At the time of this writing in 1943, Mrs. Newman, a gentle lady, kindly and courteous in manner, resides in the home in Schoolcraft, Michigan.

Mr. and Mrs. Newman enjoyed the companionship of their married life for more than sixty-one years and made their home well known for its hospitality. They were good neighbors, devoted parents and proud of their grandchildren. They were highly respected citizens.

This was written in 1943.

Arrest waller leavent.

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